

THE CHRISTMAS LEGEND

BY MARION A. BIGELOW.

THERE'S a German legend,
That they tell to-night
To the little children
In the Christmas light

Thus the legend runneth.
In a wintry storm
Came a little stranger
To a dwelling warm.

And two little children,
Very fair and sweet,
Welcomed in the wand'rer,
Warmed his frozen feet,

Placed him at their table
When their board was spread,
And with hearty pleasure
Gave the stranger bread.

Then, when very weary,
Covered up the child,
In their bed they placed him,
While the storm raged wild.

Then they slept so sweetly
On the naked floor,
Thinking that the tired one
Wandered cold no more.

Wakened from their slumbers,
In the starry night,
Came a glorious vision
Of the angels bright.

As they sung around them,
There stood their little guest,
Clad in golden garments,
Like the crowned and blest.

Thus he spake unto them:
"I was wandering lone;
You shall have my blessing
For the kindness shown."

There stood a lovely fir-tree
By their home of light;
He took one of the branches
And planted in their sight.

"This," he said, "shall flourish,
And bear its fruit for you;"
Then the Christ child and the angels
Had vanished from their view.

But every year at Christmas,
In the fir-tree's branches green,
Are many golden apples,
And nuts of silver seen.

Ah! little Christian children,
A Bible lesson see:
"As ye did it unto others,
Ye have done it unto me."

WHENEVER you see two ways before you at any point in life, you may be sure one of them is wrong, and it ought not to be any trouble to decide which one to take.—*Youth's Advocate.*

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTERLY REVIEW

December 30

GOLDEN TEXT.

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever.—Heb. 13. 8.

No, the Review is not for the teachers alone; it is for every boy and girl.

A lesson Review is a looking again at the lessons and trying once more to fix each one in mind, with its good and helpful teaching.

Suppose that this time, instead of leaving the Review work to your teacher, you try to do it for yourselves. Get slate, or paper, and pencil, and sit down for a happy half-hour at a time to see how much of the Quarter's honey you have stored away for future use.

If perhaps you have been a little bit of a drone, will you not work all the harder now to catch and put away some of the sweetness it would be so sad to lose?

Print in the middle of your slate, or paper, in as pretty letters as you can, "THE SAME." An inch and a half above put figures 1, 2, 3. Under these print "JESUS." Below figure 1, print "Teaching;" below 2, "Helping;" below 3, "Healing;" arranging the letters in a line pointing toward the centre. On each side, an inch and a half from the centre, make figures 4, 5, 6, and 7, 8, 9. Below the central words, two inches, make figures 10, 11, 12. Print, running from 4, 5, 6 to centre, "Forgiving;" "Sabbath-keeping;" "Choosing;" from 7, 8, 9, "Discipling;" "Persecuting;" "Believing;" and from 10, 11, 12, "Seed-sowing;" "Sending forth;" "Kingdom coming." Now draw a heavy line around these, and you will have the cross.

Of course you will have to use your book to see just what each lesson teaches to make this Review really good and helpful. Will you do it?

FIRST QUARTER.

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF OUR LORD.

A.D. 27.] LESSON I. [Jan. 6.

JOHN THE BAPTIST REHEADED.

Mark 6. 17-29. Memory verses, 26-28.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul.—Matt. 10. 28.

OUTLINE.

1. John's Testimony, v. 17-20.
2. John's Death, v. 21-29.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

Mon. Read the lesson verses carefully. Mark 6. 17-29.

Tues. Read the same story in Matthew. Matt. 14. 1-12.

Wed. Learn why John was not afraid. Golden Text.

Thurs. Find why the king feared. Job Verse 20.

Fri. Learn why John was called "the Baptist." Mark 1. 4, 5

Sat. Find a blessing pronounced upon such as John. Matt. 5, 6

Sun. Read Psalm 37 7-14

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

[Will you not try, dear child, to answer every one of these questions on the Lesson Story?]

How may we think of John the Baptist? What kind of a man was he? Is it right to rebuke sin?

Was this the King Herod who killed the babies? No, this was that king's son. Whom did he marry? What law did he break in doing this? God's law. Who rebuked him? Who became very angry? Why did not Herod kill John?

What party did Herod give? Who danced before him? What did he promise to do? Who told her what to say? For what did she ask? How did the king feel? Why did he grant her request? Did God forget his servant John?

REMEMBER—

"Prisons would painces prove
If Jesus would dwell with me there"

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Through whom do we receive the grace of the Holy Spirit? Only through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Does the Saviour care for children? Yes: for he said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not."

JESUS, MY SAVIOUR.

JESUS, my Saviour, to Bethlehem came,
Born in a manger to sorrow and shame;
Oh, it was wonderful! blest be his name.
Seeking for me, for me;
Oh, it was wonderful! blest be his name!
Seeking for me, for me.

Jesus, my Saviour, on Calvary's tree,
Died for my sins, that my soul might be free;
Oh, it was wonderful! how could it be?
Dying for me, for me;
Oh, it was wonderful! how could it be?
Dying for me, for me.

Jesus, my Saviour, the same as of old,
While I did wander afar from the fold
Gently and long he hath plead with my soul,
Calling for me, for me,
Gently and long he hath plead with my soul,
Calling for me, for me.

Jesus, my Saviour, shall come from on high,
Sweet is the promise as weary years fly;
Oh, I shall see him descending the sky,
Coming for me, for me;
Oh, I shall see him descending the sky,
Coming for me, for me.